

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 and 10-12, and 14-22 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 11 are amended by the present amendment. As amended Claims 1 and 11 are supported by the original disclosure,¹ no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1-6, 11, 12, 14-18, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Shirahata et al. (Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2001-351778, hereinafter “Shirahata”); Claims 7, 8, 19, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Shirahata in view of Codama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,114,805, hereinafter “Codama”); and Claims 1-3, 6, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Nagayama (Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2000-243558).

With respect to the rejection of Claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Shirahata, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 11 recite in part, “a ***driving current circuit*** connecting terminal connected electrically to the first conductive layer via a supplementary wire and an organic electroluminescence layer disposed between the first conductive layer and the second conductive layer.”

In contrast, both Shirahata and Nagayama describe displays that are voltage driven.² Accordingly, both Shirahata and Nagayama describe that a resistance of the electrode is to be minimized to minimize the voltage needed to drive the display. However, the invention recited in Claim 1 includes a driving ***current*** circuit, not a driving ***voltage*** circuit.

¹See, e.g., the specification at page 23, lines 11-19.

²See, e.g., Shirahata at paragraphs 1 and 6 and Nagayama at paragraph 2.

Accordingly, neither Shirahata nor Nagayama teach or suggest “a driving current circuit” as recited in Claims 1 and 11.

Further, the magnitude of a current which flows from a common electrode to a supplementary wire in **voltage** driven organic LED, as in Shirahata and Nagayama, is much less than the magnitude of the current in a **current** driven organic LED as recited in Claims 1 or 11. The value of the current in the voltage driven organic LEDs is small because the voltage driven organic LEDs are not driven under duty (multiplex) driving and the currents of selected lines do not collect in a single electrode, unlike in the current driven organic LEDs, since only the current for a single pixel flows. Thus, there is no suggestion or motivation to modify either of the voltage driven displays described by Shirahata and Nagayama to include a driving current circuit.

Claims 1 and 11 further recite, “the supplementary wires are configured to carry a driving current of at least 50 mA.”

With regard to the above element, the outstanding Office Action only cited portions of Shirahata and Nagayama describing the need to reduce the resistance of an electrode. However, as noted above, Shirahata and Nagayama describe voltage driven displays, and thus desire to minimize the resistance of the electrode to minimize the driving voltage and the current running through the electrode. Neither Shirahata nor Nagayama provide any value whatsoever for the amount of current that runs through the described electrodes, and neither Shirahata nor Nagayama identify the current carried any electrode as a result effective variable. Accordingly, neither Shirahata nor Nagayama teach or suggest that “the supplementary wires are configured to carry a driving current of at least 50 mA,” as recited in Claims 1 and 11.

Accordingly, as neither Shirahata nor Nagayama teach or suggest each and every element of Claims 1 or 11, and there is no motivation to modify either of the displays

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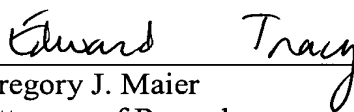
described by Shirahata and Nagayama to include all the elements of Claims 1 or 11, Claims 1 and 11 (and Claims 2-8, 10, 12, and 14-22 dependent therefrom) are patentable over both Shirahata and Nagayama.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 7, 8, 19, and 20 as unpatentable over Shirahata in view of Codama, it is noted that Claims 7, 8, 19, and 20 are dependent from Claims 1 and 11, and thus are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Codama does not cure any of the above-noted deficiencies of Shirahata. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 7, 8, 19, and 20 are patentable over Shirahata in view of Codama.

Accordingly, the outstanding rejections are traversed and the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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